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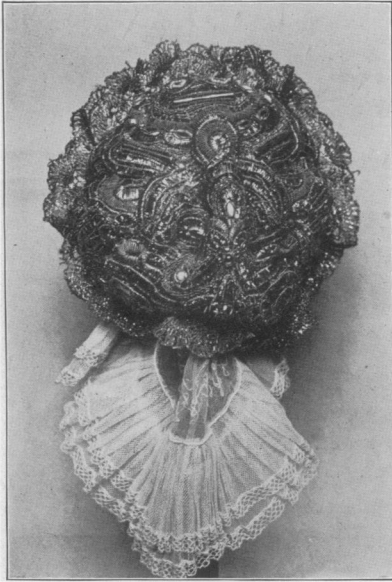
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PEASANTS' HEAD-DRESSES

Fortunately for lovers of the picturesque, the continental peasants still delight to deck themselves in the charming manner which has been a heritage from their forefathers, and the fascinating costumes with their bright colors and gay head-dress give a piquant originality to the national life. The head-dress forms perhaps the most striking feature of the peasants' costumes, and surely adds a naïve charm to the maid or matron who thus adorns herself.



In a case in the Textile Room are displayed some interesting examples of head-dresses worn by the peasants of Holland, Bavaria and the Tyrol, acquired by the Museum through the generosity of Mrs. William D. Frishmuth. A large, round hat, with wide flaring brim, is made of fine silver braid of a lacey pattern, and is trimmed with broad ribbons, hanging to the waist, pink-flowered and finished on the ends with silver fringe. Another, with broad, brocaded ribbon streamers, has a very small crown with a large brim, and is handsomely embellished with pearls worked into the yellow and black braid. The smaller, round bonnet, here shown, is made entirely of gold braid, decorated with imitation jewels and trimmed with lace.

Others in the case are of gold braid, some with long black beads. One interesting specimen has a shirred white tarlatan crown, with a band of black velvet heavily embroidered. Two curious examples are of brass, worn as ornaments with the snowy lace caps of the Holland women.

A Chinese head-dress shown in this case is of brass, upon which designs are worked out in small bits of blue feathers. It is covered with fruit and flower ornaments, made of velvet and beads, many of the latter being hung on wires. Little fan-shaped ornaments of brass are decorated with feathers in the form of ideographs.

